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State Representative Joe C. Pickett

District 79

Joe C. Pickett is a Legislator, member of the Texas House of Representatives, where he is beginning his fourth term. His current committee assignments are Appropriations and Vice-Chair of Juvenile Justice and Family Affairs. Representative Pickett has also been honored with a membership on the House Research Organization Committee. This committee reports on all legislation which is scheduled for floor debate on either the major state and/or general calendars. The reports are a balanced analysis and include the pros and cons of each bill. He is also a member of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus and is serving an interim assignment as Chairman of the State Affairs Committee.

Mr. Pickett is a member of two National Legislator groups, the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States, in which he sits as a subcommittee member on Indian Gaming Issues; and a member of the Environmental Committee of the National Council of State Legislators.

Previously, he served on the Texas House of Representatives Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, in which he worked on legislation related to stalking, DWI and Penal Code revisions. He has also served on the Transportation Committee and his duties included jurisdiction over commercial motor vehicles, the Texas highway system, and other issues. He was also a

member of the Licensing and Administrative Procedures Committee which encompasses jurisdiction of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, all professional licenses in the State, the Texas State Lottery, Boxing Commission, and the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

Representative Pickett started his political career as a City Council member for the City of El Paso, Texas. During his time on City Council he was appointed to serve on the Central Appraisal District Board for El Paso County and the Pension Board for the City of El Paso.

Mr. Pickett holds a Texas Real Estate Broker's license and has been a real estate educator for more than 17 years. He has written his own text book for continuing education classes and still teaches one or two days a month, schedule permitting. In his tenure in the real estate field, he has been a member of the local Board of Realtors in which he served on the legislative and educational committees.

His civic involvement includes membership on the boards of the Advocacy Center for the Children of El Paso and the Texas YMCA's Policy Council. He is also an appointee to the City of El Paso's Charter Ad hoc Committee. He is a member of the Lions Club for the past 15 years, a former member of the El Paso Crime Stoppers Board, and served five years as a volunteer board member, then Chairman of a local credit union. The main thrust of his civic involvement for the past few years has been the forming of a 501-C 3, non-profit organization that fights graffiti, supervises troubled youth who are required to serve community service hours and enhancing the aesthetics of the community through tree planting, cleaning and building renovation projects. The association was awarded a national honor by the "Keep America Beautiful" organization. It also recently was awarded a grant from the Office of the Governor's Juvenile Justice Department for work in the community.

His love of cars has earned him the reputation of being somewhat of a car collector. He has several antique and unusual vehicles that include a varied selection, one-of-a kind's such as John Wayne's hunting vehicle that he used in his ranch in Arizona, a double decker English bus that belonged to a famous Southwestern artist named Ted DeGrazia, and his own working fire truck that is used for children's charities and parades.

Representative Pickett is married to Denise. They have four children, three girls and a boy. Joe and Denise have both volunteered their time with the local YMCA and are both past Y Board Members and active participants in various Y programs.

